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AT the Court at St. *James's*, the 28th Day of *April* 1721

PRESENT,

The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

His Majesty having received Information, which gives great Reason to suspect that there have lately been and still are, in and about the Cities of London and Westminster, certain scandalous Clubs or Societies of young Persons who meet together, and in the most impious and blasphemous Manner, insult the most sacred Principles of our Holy Religion, affront Almighty God himself, and corrupt the Minds and Morals of one another; and being resolved to make use of all the Authority committed to Him by Almighty God, to punish such enormous Offenders, and to crush such shocking Impieties before they Increase and draw down the Vengeance of God upon this Nation: His Majesty has thought fit to command the Lord Chancellour, and his Lordship is hereby required to call together His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of Middlesex and Westminster, and strictly to enjoin them, in the most effectual Manner, that they, and every of them, do make the most diligent and careful Enquiry and Search for the Discovery of any thing of this and the like Sort, tending in any wise to the Corruption of the Principles and Manners of Men, and to lay before his Lordship such Discoveries as from time to time may be made, to the End that all proper Methods may be taken for the utter Suppression of all such detestable Practices. His Lordship is further directed to urge them to the due Execution of their Office, in detecting and prosecuting with Vigour all Prolaneness, Immorality, and Debauchery, as they value the Blessing of Almighty God, as they regard the Happiness of their Country, which cannot subsist if things Sacred and Virtuous are trampled upon, and as they tender His Majesty's Favour, to which they cannot recommend themselves more effectually than by shewing the utmost Zeal upon so important an Occasion; to which End his Lordship is to acquaint them, that as his Majesty for himself has nothing more at Heart than to regard the Honour of God, so impiously struck at, and is determined to shew all Marks of Displeasure and Discouragement to any who may lye even under the Suspicion of such Practices; so he shall always account it the greatest and most substantial Service they can do to His Majesty or his Government, to exert themselves in discovering any who are guilty of such Impieties, that they may be openly prosecuted and punished with the utmost Severity and most publick Ignominy which the Laws of the Land can inflict.

Edward Southwell.

His Majesty has been pleased to give Orders to the Principal Officers of His Household, to make strict and diligent Enquiry whether any of His Majesty's Servants are guilty of the horrid Impieties mentioned in the Order of Council inserted above, and to make Report thereof to His Majesty.

The following humble Address of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex in General Quarter Sessions assembled, has been presented to His Majesty by Robert Thornhill, Esq; Chairman of the Sessions, accompanied by several other Justices of the Peace; being introduced by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Chamberlain of His Majesty's Household, and Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Middlesex and City and Liberty of Westminster; and the said Justices had the Honour to kiss His Majesty's Hand.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects the Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, in General Quarter Sessions assembled, do humbly beg Leave to approach your Majesty with our most hearty Congratulations for the great Blessing it has pleased Almighty God to afford your Royal Family and these Nations in the Birth of a Prince, who, we pray God, may inherit all your Majesty's Vertues, and by whom our Views and ardent Hopes are so greatly enlarged of having the many Benefits we enjoy in a Protestant Succession of Princes in your illustrious House perpetuated to the latest Posterity.

It must be looked upon by all good Men as a farther Earnest of that gracious Providence that has in all Times, and in the greatest Difficulties, so signally appeared for these Nations, to see your Royal Line now encreased, which must be a Security to every thing that is dear to your loyal Subjects.

We beg Leave to assure your Majesty, that we will not be wanting in the Station in which your Majesty has placed us, to instil such Notions of Affection and Loyalty to your Majesty's Person and Government, and of the many Blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's mild and happy Reign, as may sufficiently evidence our Zeal for the present Establishment, under this firm Assurance, that we shall thereby best promote the true Interest of our Country.

That your Majesty may long live (the greatest Blessing that can possibly be desired for these Kingdoms,) and that no Attempts of your Enemies of any kind may be able to disturb the Peace and Quiet of your Reign, is the sincere Prayer of

Your Majesty's most dutiful, most loyal,
And most faithful Subjects.

To which His Majesty was pleased to give the following most gracious Answer.

I Thank you for this Mark of Duty and Affection to me and my Government, and for the Zeal you shew for the Preservation of the Protestant Succession in my Family.

Berlin, April 22, *N. S.* Letters from Riga relate, that the Czar having had Notice of the Duke of Holstein's Departure from Mitau for Riga, sent Prince Repnin with a great Train of Coaches and a Detachment of Horse to meet and receive him on the Way, and to conduct him to a Country Seat called Jungfer, a League from Riga, whither his Czarish Majesty went to give him Audience, and has since been twice in Conference with him. The Duke keeps private there, till the proposed Marriage between him and the Czar's eldest Daughter be one way or other determined, his Czarish Majesty having taken some time to consider of it. On the 20th Instant M. Sicre, formerly Adjutant-General in Sweden, passed through this Place with Dispatches from M. Campredon for the French Court, and is gone on Post for Paris. He stopt here about an Hour to make a Visit to Count Pos, and gave an Account, that M. Campredon had imbarked for Sweden at Pillau in Prussia; that the Czar continued in his Design to make an Attempt on Sweden, with his whole Fleet and a very considerable Body of Troops; that the Rendezvous was to be at Revel, whither Prince Menzicoff was to bring the Fleet from Croonslot; and that Admiral Apraxin was to command the Gallies, Prahmes, and Transports with Land-Forces.

Paris, May 3. A few Days ago two Millions of Livres in old Specie were seized in the House of M. de la Motte, an Officer of the King's Exchange, who, besides the Loss of that Sum and his Employment, will be condemned to pay a great Fine. The Duke of Bourbon is expected here this Day from Chantilly: His Highness had two Days ago another Fit of the Fever. M. d'Argenson, Keeper of the Seals, who was dangerously ill a few Days ago, is much better, as is also M. Desmarets. The Widow of the late Marques de Meziére, has obtained a Pension from the King of 4000 Livres a Year for her and her Children. Count Corsini, Plenipotentiary from the Grand Duke of Tuscany to the ensuing Congress at Cambray, set out the 29th past for that Place. M. de Bielke, Minister of